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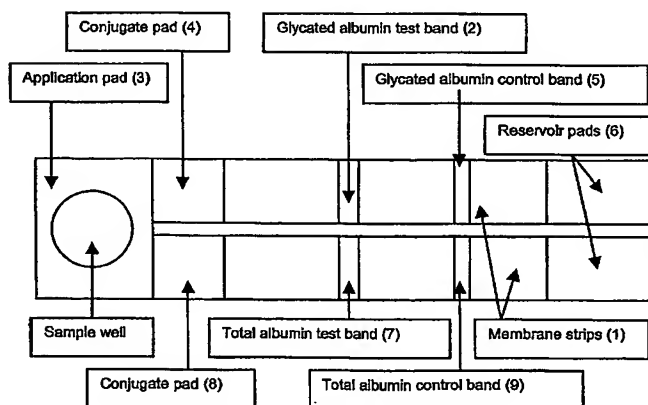
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(54) Title: RAPID TEST FOR GLYCATED ALBUMIN



Test Strips: Overhead View

(57) Abstract: A rapid immunochromatographic assay system is provided for measuring both glycated albumin and total albumin. The immunochromatographic assay system is comprised of a cassette that contains the test strips and testing reagents and a measurement device that automatically reads, calculates and displays the test results. The test strip comprises a solid phase support (1) to which antibody to glycated albumin has been fixed to the support as a band (2). A sample application pad (3) contacts a conjugate pad (4) containing microparticles coated with anti-glycated albumin antibody. A control band (5) is provided to bind excess unreacted microparticles. A reservoir pad (6) is provided at the distal end to absorb excess sample fluid. The measurement device can be either a reflectance spectrometer or fluorometer. The level of glycated albumin is expressed as a percentage of the total albumin present in blood. The results of tests that are performed over a period of time are stored in the instrument's memory and presented in a numerical or graphical format so that an individual patient's glycated albumin level can be monitored over time.

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